CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A device for providing indicia in synchronization with a video program, the device comprising:

    a.   a communication port adapted to receive a video input signal of the video program;

    b.   a central processing unit in communication with the communication port, said central processing unit detecting data embedded in the video input signal;

    c.   indicia in communication with the central processing unit; and

    d.   said central processing unit activating said indicia upon detection of the data embedded in the video input signal.

2. The device of claim 1 further comprising a storage device having a stored program in communication with said central processing unit, said stored program executing upon detection of the data embedded in the video input signal by said central processing unit.

3. The device of claim 1 further comprising a read-only-memory having a stored program in communication with the central processing unit, said stored program executing upon detection of the data embedded in the video input signal by said central processing unit.

4. The device of claim 1 further comprising a random-access-memory in communication with the central processing unit and allowing for temporary storage of instructions or data by the central processing unit.

5. The device of claim 1 further comprising a read-only-memory, a random-access-memory, a storage device and a bus, each of said read-only-memory, random-access-memory and storage device communicating with the central processing unit through said bus.

6. The device of claim 1 wherein said device includes a base station housing the communication port, the central processing unit and a wireless transmitter module in communication with the central processing unit and further comprising a wireless receiver unit remote from said base station and attached to said indicia so that said indicia communicates with the central processing unit of the base station by wireless transmission.

7. The device of claim 6 wherein said wireless receiver unit includes a second central processing unit.

8. The device of claim 7 wherein said wireless receiver unit includes a storage device having a stored program, said storage device in communication with said second central processing unit and executing upon detection of the data embedded in the video stream by the central processing unit of the base station.

9. The device of claim 7 wherein said wireless receiver unit includes a read-only-memory having a stored program, said read-only memory in communication with the second central processing unit and executing upon detection of the data embedded in the video stream by the central processing unit of the base station.

10. The device of claim 7 further comprising a random-access-memory housed in the wireless receiver unit and in communication with the second central processing unit and allowing for temporary storage of instructions or data by the second central processing unit.

11. The device of claim 7 further comprising a read-only-memory, a random-access-memory, a storage device and a bus housed in the wireless receiver unit, each of said read-only-memory, random-access-memory and storage device communicating with the second central processing unit through said bus.

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12.   The device of claim 6 wherein said wireless receiver unit includes a visual indicia.

13.   The device of claim 12 wherein said indicia includes a flashing red light.

14.   The device of claim 6 wherein said wireless receiver device includes an audible indicia.

15.   The device of claim 14 wherein said indicia includes a speaker.

16.   The device of claim 6 wherein said indicia includes a toy.

17.   The device of claim 16 wherein said toy moves when said central processing unit detects the data embedded in the video input signal.

18.   The device of claim 16 wherein said toy simulates speech when said central processing unit detects the data embedded in the video input signal.

19.   The device of claim 1 wherein said indicia includes a visual indicia.

20.   The device of claim 19 wherein said indicia includes a flashing red light.

21.   The device of claim 1 wherein said indicia is audible.

22.   The device of claim 21 wherein said indicia includes a speaker.

23.   The device of claim 1 wherein said indicia includes a toy that moves when said central processing unit detects the data embedded in the video input signal.

24.   The device of claim 1 wherein said indicia includes a toy that simulates speech when said central processing unit detects the data embedded in the video input signal.

25.   A method for providing indicia in synchronization with a video program comprising the steps of:

    a.   embedding data in the broadcast signal of the video program;

    b.   transmitting the broadcast signal;

    c.   receiving the broadcast signal at a location remote from where the broadcast signal was transmitted;

    d.   detecting the data embedded in the broadcast signal; and

    e.   activating the indicia in response to the data embedded in the broadcast signal.

26.   A system for providing indicia in synchronization with a video program, the system comprising:

    a.   means for embedding data into a broadcast signal of the video program;

    b.   means for transmitting the broadcast signal in communication with the means for embedding data into the broadcast signal;

    c.   means for receiving the broadcast signal from the means for transmitting the broadcast signal; and

    d.   an external device in communication with the means for receiving the broadcast signal, said external device providing the indicia upon receipt of the data embedded in the broadcast signal.